ARCANA
3
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Don Bluth Presents
DRAGON'S LAIR™

ARCANA
www.arcanastudio.com

owner/editor
sean o'reilly
art director
todd demong

editors
stjepan sejic
stefani rennee

script	Ryan Foley
plot	Andy Mangels
art	Fabio Laguna
colors	Arcana Studio
letters	Bill Tortolini
cover	Fabio Laguna Val Staples

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Many tales have been told of the time when heroes faced magic and monsters without fear...
HURRY, HALVERN. CAST—I DON'T KNOW—FASTER OR SOMETHING.
I'M SORRY, LERAENE. IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY. THE MAGIC OF SCRYING IS AN EXACT SCIENCE.
THE FARTHER DIRK GOES INTO THE DARK KINGDOM, THE HARDER IT IS TO TRACK HIM... AND SINGE'S CASTLE IS ABOUT AS DARK AS YOU CAN GET.
BUT YOU CAN TRACK HIM?
YES... BUT IT'S GOING TO TAKE A LITTLE MORE TIME.
THAT CERTAINLY LOOKS LIKE DIRK'S HANDIWORK.
I'VE LOST CONTACT.
I HAVE FAITH IN DIRK. NO MATTER WHAT THE TROUBLE...
WELL, AT LEAST WE KNOW DIRK MADE IT INTO THE CASTLE. HE'S GOING TO HAVE TO HURRY THOUGH. THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT.

"...DIRK ALWAYS MANAGES TO KEEP HIS COOL."
SO YOU ARE DESIGNING YOUR CASTLE. YOU WANT SOMETHING TO SET IT APART FROM ALL THE OTHERS OUT THERE.
OH, I KNOW. LET'S PUT IN A FLAMING PIT OF FIRE!
EVERYONE HAS A MOAT. EVERY CASTLE HAS A TOWER.
MOTTE AND BAILEY? A PORTCULLIS? NO, BEEN THERE. DONE THAT.
A FLAMING PIT OF FIRE? WHAT AN EXCELLENT CHOICE, MY LIEGE.
THAT WILL CERTAINLY GIVE THE PLACE A ROSY GLOW. WE'LL START CONSTRUCTION IMMEDIATELY, YOUR LORDSHIP.
HEE HEE HEE

HOT ENOUGH FOR YOU, YA GOONS?
YIHEEE!
FFZZZFZZ
HMMM.. SMELLS LIKE CHICKEN. WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT?
I'D LOVE TO STAY AND CHAT BUT I HAVE BUSINESS WITH YOUR MASTER. I THINK YOU SHOULD...
HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE
GULP
THAT'S NOT GOOD.
ALL THE GOONS IN THE WORLD AND I GET THE HANDFUL THAT HAPPEN TO BE CLEVER.
HEE HEE HEE
SKREEASHH!!

SAVE ME!
HOLD ON, DAPHNE. I'M COMING.
Click
SSWISH!
SSWISH!
SSWISH!
SSWISH!
SSWISH!
STRANGE.
STRANGE.
STRANGE.
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
SELF-LIGHTING TORCHES. HOW HANDY.
HOW HANDY.
HOW HANDY.

OH... NO...
SKREEK SKREEK SKREEK SKREEK
HOLY BAT CAVES!
SKREEK SKREEK SKREEK SKREEK SKREEK SKREEK SKREEK
INSIDE VOICES! INSIDE VOICES! USE YOUR INSIDE VOICES!
SKREEK SKREEK SKREEK
I CAN'T EVEN HEAR MY OWN WITTY DIALOGUE!
SKREEK SKREEK

SLAMM
BETWEEN THE HYDRA SNAKE, SKELETONS, THE ZOMBIES, THE MUD MEN, THOSE GOONEY GOOBER "HEE-HEE-ERS" AND NOW THESE BATS...
I'D GIVE MY LEFT ARM FOR A HOT BATH RIGHT NOW.
I'M NOT PART OF THE SUPERSTITIOUS OR COWARDLY LOT, BUT I STILL HATE THOSE THINGS.
NEXT TIME, I'LL HAVE TO WEAR A WEAKER COLOGNE.
A MAN CAN ONLY TAKE SO MANY GRUESOME AND MALFORMED BEASTIES OVER SUCH A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME.
IS THE EVIL NYMPH UNION ON STRIKE OR SOMETHING?

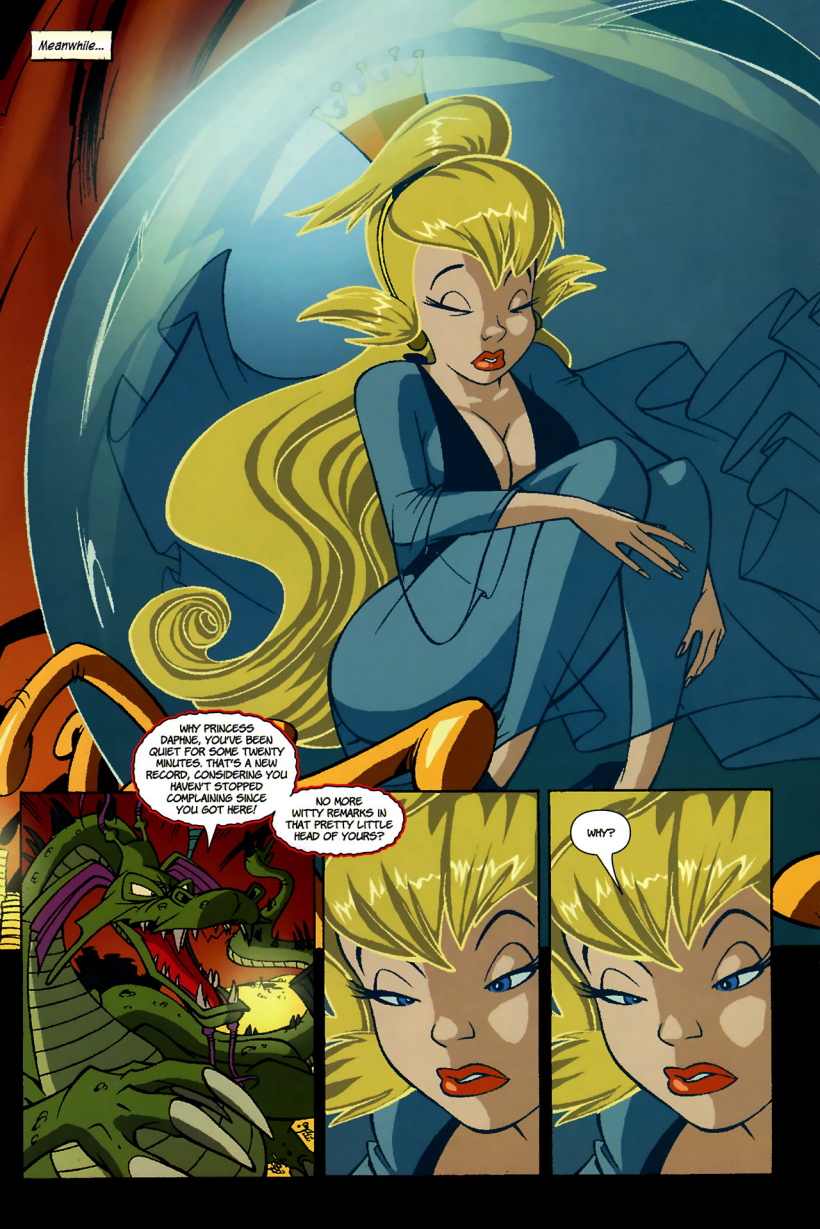
I KNOW SINGE WOULDN'T LEAVE A PERFECTLY GOOD ROOM EMPTY. THAT WOULD BE TOO EASY.
SO GO AHEAD AND C'MON OUT.
OLLIE OLLIE OXEN FREE.
WHOOOSSH!
CLAANG!

PROPHETS BE PRAISED! IT IS YOU.
DIRK THE DARING, GREATEST KNIGHT IN ALL THE KINGDOM.
I HAVE PRAYED THAT SUCH A NOBLE MAN WOULD COME AND RESCUE ME FROM SINGE'S VILE CLAWS.
THE BEAST HAS FORCED ME TO USE MY CONJURING TO FURTHER HIS EVIL ENDS.
BUT NOW *YOU* ARE HERE AND *YOU* WILL SAVE ME!

I BOW BEFORE YOUR MERCY, BRAVE KNIGHT.
YES... I'M HERE TO... SAVE... YOU.
BEING HELD CAPTIVE BY SINGE HAS BEEN SIMPLY HORRIBLE.
SIMPLY HORRIBLE.
HE TOLD ME THAT ONCE I FINISHED CONSTRUCTING THE BUBBLE OF HELOTRY, I WOULD BE FREE, BUT I KNEW SINGE WOULD *NEVER* LET ME GO.
AND NOW DIRK THE DARING IS HERE TO SAVE ONLY ME.
ONLY YOU.

YOUR JOURNEY HAS BEEN LONG. DIFFICULT.
DIFFICULT. YOUR JOURNEY HAS BEEN LONG.
LONG. YOUR JOURNEY HAS BEEN DIFFICULT.
YOU HAVE FACED MANY DANGERS. SURVIVED GREAT PERILS.
SURVIVED GREAT PERILS. YOU HAVE FACED MANY DANGERS.
YOU HAVE FACED MANY PERILS. SURVIVED GREAT DANGER.
YOU DESERVE TO REST. ENJOY A LONG SLEEP.
ENJOY A LONG SLEEP. YOU DESERVE TO REST.
YOU DESERVE TO SLEEP. ENJOY A LONG REST.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO SLEEP IN MY BED, DIRK?
YOU WANT TO SLEEP IN MY BED, DIRK.
YOU WANT TO SLEEP IN MY BED, DIRK.
I WOULD LIKE TO SLEEP IN YOUR BED.
BEFORE WE GET INTO BED, WOULD YOU DO SOMETHING FOR ME, MY BRAVE AND BOLD KNIGHT?
OF COURSE. ANYTHING.

KISS ME.
KISS ME.
KISS ME.
KISS ME.
KISS ME.
KISS ME.


Meanwhile...
WHY PRINCESS DAPHNE, YOU'VE BEEN QUIET FOR SOME TWENTY MINUTES. THAT'S A NEW RECORD, CONSIDERING YOU HAVEN'T STOPPED COMPLAINING SINCE YOU GOT HERE!
NO MORE WITTY REMARKS IN THAT PRETTY LITTLE HEAD OF YOURS?
WHY?

WHAT WAS THAT?
WHY? WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS? WHY ARE YOU SO... EVIL?
EVIL? EVIL?!?!
YOU STUPID HUMAN! YOU'RE JUST LIKE ALL THE REST.
ALWAYS THINKING IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU. WHAT ABOUT YOUR PRECIOUS DIRK!
HE'S KILLED DOZENS OF MY FAMILY.
I KILLED HIM FOR REVENGE, YOU DOLT!
YOU WERE JUST... A FRINGE BENEFIT.

REVENGE?
YES.
SO IF IT'S JUST FOR REVENGE, THEN WHY ARE ENJOYING IT SO MUCH?
BURNING!
BECAUSE, REVENGE OR NOT, I AM EVIL.
AND I FIND IT FITTING THAT DIRK'S TRUE LOVE WILL SPEND THE REST OF HER DAYS CLEANING MY TEETH AND POLISHING MY SCALES. CALL IT... POETIC JUSTICE.
YOU STOOPID LIZARD THINGIE!
SAVE ME! DIRK! SAVE ME!
THE MAGIC'S WORK IS ALMOST DONE. IT WON'T BE LONG NOW...

NOT LONG AT ALL...
HAHAHAHA!
HAHAHAHA!
HAHAHAHA!

OH.. MY.. GOD!
HOW DARE YOU REFUSE MY ADVANCES!
LET ME PASS, GOOD... UH... MAID. I HAVE NO QUARREL WITH YOU.
UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, I CAN'T SAY THE SAME!
NOW FEEL THE WRATH...
... OF MY DARK AVENGER!
BEHOLD...
THE BLACK KNIGHT!

HE SPURNED MY ADVANCES, BLACK KNIGHT. DEFEAT HIM.
BUT I WANT HIM ALIVE AND... FUNCTIONAL.
NOT SMART LOWERING YOUR WEAPON, FRIEND. THAT'S LESSON NUMBER ONE AT KNIGHT SCHOO—
SWOOSH!
CLINK!
FFZZKRT!
FWING!
BUT MOMMA, I DON' WANNAGO TO SCHOOL TDAY.

THE CODE... THE KNIGHTS' CODE...
YOU'RE GOING TO LET ME GET... MY SWORD... RIGHT?
ALL RIGHT THEN, BIG BOY, BRING IT ON.
CRACK!
TOUGH BREAK, FRIEND.
WHAT THE?
WHERE DID HE-
SSCRRAAPPP!

WREENK!
IG... GOTH... MR... SWRRRD.
I SRD... IG... GOTH... MR... SWRRRD.
SLICE

I SAID... I GOT MY SWORD.
NOW, I TOLD YOU, I WAS UNARMED. IT'S NOT VERY SPORTING TO TRY TO KILL AN UNARMED MAN.
OF COURSE, NOW I'M FACED WITH THE SAME DILEMMA.
HA! GET IT? UNARMED?
SAY GOODNIGHT, BLACKIE.
KERASH!
THANKS, FOLKS. I'M HERE ALL WEEK.
TRY THE VENISON AND DON'T FORGET TO TIP YOUR SERVING WENCHES.

YOU...
YOU STUPID, STUPID MAN!
I WAS WILLING TO MAKE THIS PLEASANT BUT NOW YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO SPEND ETERNITY AS PART OF MY COLLECTION!
CHOOSE A PRETTY POSE, DIRK! YOU'RE GOING TO SPEND AN ETERNITY THAT WAY!
:GULP:
SAVE ME, PLEASE!
SHRRZZRACK!
CHING
Whissch!
GRRAAKKKLE

SAVE MEEEEE!
SHE'S CLOSE. I KNOW IT. I CAN FEEL IT IN MY SOUL.
HANG ON, MY LOVE. THIS NIGHTMARE IS ALMOST O—
AAAAHHH!
AARRGH!
To Be Concluded...

KADE

Kade: Sun of Perdition #1 (1 of 4) BI-MONTHLY

Kade is the gothic demon hunter who doesn't feel, but always hurts.

During the Black Sun, under the Eye of God, angels may fall to Earth. These Fallen Angels have left the grace of God and act without consequence. Many try to spite their Creator by possessing the anemic spirits of those who are morally corrupt, using them as their demonic servants.

As a Child of the Black Sun, Kade is the ageless balance that tips the dark scale back towards the light, as he hunts the demons and The Fallen. Kade and Ezra have been hunting demons for nearly a thousand years and another Black Sun is on the horizon and with it, one of the most powerful enemies known to man.

"When they have finished, The Beast will come out of The Abyss. He will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.'

regular cover

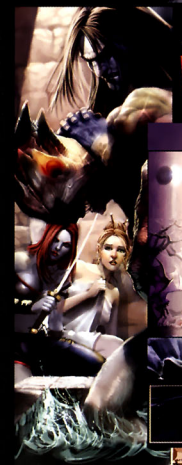
the first of four VARIANT EDITION DARK AGES covers

VARIETY

"Visually stunning! Arcana brings the dark, mythic world of Kade to life."

WIZARD

"Arcana's leading badass returns with a new look and is one of 11 Indy books to keep your eye on."



KADE
BIG TIME
THIRD
ISSUE
Sun of Perdition

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The CLOCKWORK GIRL

Sean O'Reilly & Kevin Hanna

present

Arcana's first fully animated CG movie

and book coming 2008.

This one's for you, my friend

"Say not in grief 'he is no more' but live in thankfulness that he was"
—Hebrew proverb

In Memory Of Our Dear Friend

PUCKINFL

August 30, 1978 - February 21, 2007
Be At Peace